

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer-implemented project information management system for customizing a graphical representation of project data, the method comprising:

providing project data for a project, the project data identifying tasks of the project, each task being defined by a plurality of data fields, having a unique identifier, and being assigned a category;

displaying a PERT chart graphical representation of the provided project data, wherein the project data includes a first task and a second task that are assigned the same category wherein each task is represented as a graphical element containing task data and wherein the PERT chart is displayed in either ID-only mode or not in ID-only mode, wherein when the PERT chart is displayed in ID-only mode, the display of each graphical element includes displaying the unique identifier assigned to the task represented by each graphical element and does not include displaying any other task data and wherein when the PERT chart is displayed in not ID-only mode, it is displayed with a scaling percentage and the display of each graphical element includes displaying other task data;

when the PERT chart is being displayed not in ID-only mode,

~~and wherein the first task is represented~~ representing the first task as a first graphical element displayed in a first format of the associated category and ~~the second task is represented~~ representing the second task as a second graphical element displayed in the first format of the assigned category, the first format including a first border surrounding a first set of cells arranged in a first layout, the

first set of cells being configured to display a first set of data fields of the tasks of the category;
receiving from a user a selection of the second graphical element representing the second task;
displaying options for formatting the selected graphical element;
receiving from the user a selection of a second format for the selected graphical element representing the second task, the second format including a second border surrounding a second set of cells arranged in a second layout different from the first layout, the second set of cells being configured to display a second set of data fields of the second task different from the first set of data fields;
and
representing the selected graphical element in the selected second format whereby the user can customize the display of the project data on a task-by-task basis, such that the first graphical element representing the first task comprises different data fields and a different layout of data fields from the second graphical element representing the second task even though the first task and the second task are assigned the same category, and
when PERT chart is being displayed with a scaling percentage that is below a threshold set for node magnification and a mouse pointer is positioned within a predefined region relative to a graphical element,
displaying one or more of the graphical elements at an increased magnification level relative to the other graphical elements;
and
when the PERT chart is being displayed in ID-only mode and a mouse pointer has hovered over a displayed graphical element representing the second task for more than a first predetermined amount of time,

displaying the graphical element and the task data of the graphical element at a standard magnification with the second layout, and when the graphical element has been displayed at the standard magnification for more than a second predetermined amount of time, displaying the graphical element as displayed in the PERT chart prior to being magnified.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the second set of cells has more cells configured to display the second set of data fields than the first set of cells.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the at least one of the first and second set of cells includes a label.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 including storing an association between the second task represented by the selected graphical element and selected second format so that when the graphical representation of the provided project data is re-displayed, the graphical element for the task can be displayed in the selected second format.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the displaying of options includes displaying a dialog box for specifying a style of a graphical element and a separate dialog box for specifying how data within a graphical element is to be displayed.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the displaying of options includes displaying a dialog box for specifying a style of a graphical element.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the displaying of options includes displaying a dialog box for specifying how data within a graphical element is to be displayed.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the dialog box displays an indication of pre-existing templates for display of data.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein a task has associated data variables and the selected second format specifies the data variables of the second task whose values are to be displayed within the selected graphical representation.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium for controlling a computer-implemented project information management system to customize a graphical representation of project data of a project, the project having tasks, a task having data variables and a unique identifier, by a method comprising:

providing a network diagram that graphically represents each task of the project data as a graphical element containing task data, the network diagram being displayed in either ID-only mode or not in ID-only mode, wherein when the network diagram is displayed in ID-only mode, the display of each graphical element includes displaying the unique identifier assigned to the task represented by each graphical element and does not include displaying any other task data and wherein when the network diagram is displayed in not ID-only mode, it is displayed with a scaling percentage and the display of each graphical element includes displaying other task data;

assigning tasks of the project a category;

when the network diagram is being displayed not in ID-only mode,

displaying, for each of a plurality of tasks of the project belonging to a first category, a graphical element with a first border enclosing a first set of one or more data variables arranged in a first layout;₁
receiving from a user a selection of a first task;₁
displaying an indication of data variables of the first task;₁
receiving from the user a selection of a second set of one or more data variables different from the first set of data variables, wherein the second set of data variables are arranged in a second layout different from the first layout;₁ and
displaying a graphical element representing the first task with the selected second set of data variables arranged in the second layout
whereby the user can customize the display of the project data on a task-by-task basis, such that a graphical element representing the first task is displayed in the second format at the same time a graphical element representing a second task is displayed in the first format even though the first task and the second task are assigned the same category, and;
when the network diagram is being displayed with a scaling percentage that is below a threshold set for node magnification and a mouse pointer is positioned within a predefined region relative to a graphical element,
displaying one or more of the graphical elements at an increased magnification level relative to the other graphical elements;
and
when the network diagram is being displayed in ID-only mode and a mouse pointer has hovered over a displayed graphical element representing the first task for more than a first predetermined amount of time,
displaying the graphical element and the task data of the graphical element at a standard magnification with the second layout, and

when the graphical element has been displayed at the standard magnification for more than a second predetermined amount of time, displaying the graphical element as displayed in the network diagram prior to being magnified.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 29 including storing an association between the first task represented by the selected graphical element and the selected second set of data variables so that when the graphical representation of the provided project data is re-displayed, the graphical element for the first task can be displayed with the selected second set of data variables.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein the displaying of the indication includes displaying a dialog box for specifying a style of the graphical element and a separate dialog box for specifying how data variables within the graphical element are to be displayed.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein the displaying of the indication includes displaying a dialog box for specifying how data variables within the graphical element are to be displayed.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 33 wherein the dialog box displays an indication of pre-existing templates for display of the data variables.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer-implemented project information management system to customize a graphical representation of project data, by a method comprising:

providing project data for a project, the project data identifying tasks of the project, each task being defined by a plurality of data fields and having a unique identifier, wherein at least some of the tasks are assigned to a category;

displaying a network diagram graphical representation of the provided project data, wherein the network diagram is displayed in either ID-only mode or not in ID-only mode, wherein when the network diagram is displayed in ID-only mode, the display of each graphical element includes displaying the unique identifier assigned to the task represented by each graphical element and does not include displaying any other task data and wherein when the network diagram is displayed in not ID-only mode, it is displayed with a scaling percentage and the display of each graphical element includes displaying other task data;

when the network diagram is being displayed not in ID-only mode,

~~wherein a task is represented~~ representing each task as a graphical element displayed in a first shape format, the first shape format including a first border in a first shape surrounding a first set of cells arranged in a first layout, the first set of cells being configured to display a first set of data fields of the task;₁

receiving from a user a selection of tasks, each selected task belonging to the same category;₁

displaying options for formatting a graphical element representing a task;₁

receiving from the user a selection of a second shape format, wherein the second shape format includes a second border in a second shape different from the first shape, the second border surrounding a second set of cells arranged in a second layout different from the

first layout, the second set of cells being configured to display a second set of data fields of the task different from the first set of data fields; and,

re-displaying the graphical elements of the selected tasks in the second shape format

whereby the user can customize the display of the project data such that graphical elements representing tasks in one category are displayed in a first shape format at the same time as graphical elements representing tasks in the same category are displayed in a second shape format, and

when the network diagram is being displayed with a scaling percentage that is below a threshold set for node magnification and a mouse pointer is positioned within a predefined region relative to a graphical element,

displaying one or more of the graphical elements at an increased magnification level relative to the other graphical elements;

and

when the network diagram is being displayed in ID-only mode and a mouse pointer has hovered over a displayed graphical element representing one of the selected tasks for more than a first predetermined amount of time,

displaying the graphical element and the task data of the graphical element at a standard magnification with the second shape format,

and

when the graphical element has been displayed at the standard magnification for more than a second predetermined amount of time, displaying the graphical element as displayed in the network diagram prior to being magnified.

36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the second set of cells has more cells configured to display the second set of data fields than the first set of cells.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the at least one of the first and second set of cells includes a label.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 including storing an association between the selected tasks and the second shape format so that when the graphical representation of the provided project data is re-displayed, the graphical elements for the selected tasks can be displayed in the second shape format.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the displaying of options includes displaying a dialog box for specifying a style of a graphical element and a separate dialog box for specifying how data within a graphical element is to be displayed.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the displaying of options includes displaying a dialog box for specifying a style of a graphical element.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the displaying of options includes displaying a dialog box for specifying how data within a graphical element is to be displayed.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein a task has associated data variables and the second shape format specifies the

data variables of the task whose values are to be displayed within the graphical elements of the selected tasks.

43. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer-implemented project information management system for displaying information of different tasks in different formats, each task having a unique identifier, the method comprising:

providing a network diagram in which tasks are represented as graphical elements and the network diagram is displayed in either ID-only mode or not in ID-only mode, wherein when the network diagram is displayed in ID-only mode, the display of each graphical element includes displaying the unique identifier assigned to the task represented by each graphical element and does not include displaying any other task data and wherein when the network diagram is displayed in not ID-only mode, it is displayed with a scaling percentage and the display of each graphical element includes displaying other task data;

providing a first format of a graphical element for displaying information of tasks assigned a first category the first format including a first border in a first shape surrounding a first set of cells arranged in a first layout, the first set of cells being configured to display a first set of data fields of the task;

providing a second format of a graphical element for displaying information of tasks assigned the first category the second format including a second border in a second shape surrounding a second set of cells arranged in a second layout, the second set of cells being configured to display a second set of data fields of the task, wherein the second format is different from the first format;

selecting tasks of the project assigned the first category whose information is to be displayed;

when the network diagram is being displayed not in ID-only mode, and

for each selected task, displaying a graphical element for the task in either the first format or the second format
so that a graphical element for a task assigned the first category and displayed in the first format and a graphical element for a different task assigned the first category and displayed in the second format are displayed simultaneously, and
when the network diagram is being displayed with a scaling percentage that is below a threshold set for node magnification and a mouse pointer is positioned within a predefined region relative to a graphical element,
displaying one or more of the graphical elements at an increased magnification level relative to the other graphical elements;
and
when the network diagram is being displayed in ID-only mode and a mouse pointer has hovered over a displayed graphical element representing one of the selected tasks for more than a first predetermined amount of time,
displaying the graphical element and the task data of the graphical element at a standard magnification with the second shape format,
and
when the graphical element has been displayed at the standard magnification for more than a second predetermined amount of time, displaying the graphical element as displayed in the network diagram prior to being magnified.